Home Comfort

Updated April 2005

ENERGY STAR
INTERNATIONAL SYMBOL FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY
SYMBOLE INTERNATIONAL D'EFFICACITÉ ÉNERGÉTIQUE

When Canadians want to save energy and money and help the environment, they look for the ENERGY STAR® symbol to identify energy-efficient products.

Canadians consume a lot of energy — and spend a lot of money — to heat and cool their homes. In fact, space heating is the single largest source of energy consumption in a typical Canadian home. With today's rising energy costs, informed consumers know to look for the ENERGY STAR symbol when shopping for new heating, ventilating or air-conditioning (HVAC) equipment.

ENERGY STAR is the symbol for energy efficiency for many products in Canada. An HVAC product that qualifies for ENERGY STAR saves consumers money because it uses less energy than conventional equipment while offering the same or better performance. From an environmental perspective, improving energy efficiency reduces greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change.

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How Does HVAC Equipment Qualify for the ENERGY STAR Symbol?

In Canada, the ENERGY STAR symbol can be used to promote the sale of qualifying models of louvred room air conditioners (with no reverse cycle), central air conditioners, residential gas furnaces, residential boilers, air-to-air heat pumps, programmable thermostats and dehumidifiers. The technical specifications are the same for Canada and the United States.

To qualify:

- Room air conditioners (without reverse cycle and without internal heating elements)
  - Window-mounted room air conditioners with a capacity of 20 000 Btu/h or more must have an energy efficiency ratio (EER) of 9.4 or higher. Units with a capacity of less than 20 000 Btu/h must have an EER of 10.7 or higher.
  - Through-the-wall units with a capacity of 8000 Btu/h or more must have an EER of 9.4 or higher. Units with a capacity of less than 8000 Btu/h must have an EER of 9.9 or higher.
  - Casement-only units must have an EER of 9.6 or higher.
  - Casement-slider units must have an EER of 10.5 or higher.
- Central air conditioners
  - Split systems must have a seasonal energy efficiency rating (SEER) of 13 or higher and an EER of 11 or higher.
  - Single package equipment must have a SEER of 12 or higher and an EER of 10.5 or higher.
- Residential gas furnaces must achieve an annual fuel utilization efficiency (AFUE) rating of 90 or higher.

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- Central air conditioners
  - Split systems must have a seasonal energy efficiency rating (SEER) of 13 or higher and an EER of 11 or higher.
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DID YOU KNOW?

Heat and cool smartly — more than half of all energy used by households goes to heat and cool the home.

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  - Through-the-wall units with a capacity of 8000 Btu/h or more must have an EER of 9.4 or higher. Units with a capacity of less than 8000 Btu/h must have an EER of 9.9 or higher.
  - Casement-only units must have an EER of 9.6 or higher.
  - Casement-slider units must have an EER of 10.5 or higher.
- Central air conditioners
  - Split systems must have a seasonal energy efficiency rating (SEER) of 13 or higher and an EER of 11 or higher.
  - Single package equipment must have a SEER of 12 or higher and an EER of 10.5 or higher.
- Residential gas furnaces must achieve an annual fuel utilization efficiency (AFUE) rating of 90 or higher.

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- Residential boilers must have an AFUE rating of 85 or higher.
- Air-to-air heat pumps
  - Split systems must have a SEER of 13 or higher, an EER of 11 or higher and a heating seasonal performance factor (HSPF) of 8 or higher.
  - Single package equipment must have a SEER of 12 or higher, an EER of 10.5 or higher and an HSPF of 7.6 or higher.
- Standard-capacity dehumidifiers (10 to 35 litres/day) must have a minimum energy factor ranging from 1.20 to 1.50, depending on the unit's size. High-capacity dehumidifiers (up to 57 litres/day) must have an energy factor of 2.25 or higher.
- Programmable thermostats must have at least two programs with four temperature settings each.

Manufacturers of HVAC equipment who are not already enrolled in the ENERGY STAR® program in the United States and who wish to use the ENERGY STAR symbol in Canada must sign an administrative arrangement with Natural Resources Canada's (NRCan's) Office of Energy Efficiency (OEE) and certify that the product or products to be labelled meet ENERGY STAR specifications. Manufacturers of ENERGY STAR labelled products that qualify in Canada and those who are enrolled in the U.S. ENERGY STAR program must supply NRCan with a Canadian contact if they wish to benefit from NRCan's marketing and promotional activities.

ENERGY STAR and EnerGuide

Where applicable, the ENERGY STAR symbol is being promoted in conjunction with Canada's EnerGuide rating system for HVAC equipment, another program that aims to help consumers save money and help the environment.

EnerGuide provides buyers with the information they need to compare the energy consumption or energy efficiency ratings of different products. ENERGY STAR goes a step further by identifying the most energy-efficient models on the market. In some cases (e.g., room air conditioners), the ENERGY STAR symbol may appear on the EnerGuide label.

Availability of HVAC Equipment Labelled with ENERGY STAR

The OEE promotes the international ENERGY STAR symbol in Canada and monitors its use. Major manufacturers and retailers of energy-efficient products, utilities and energy retailers, all levels of government, and interest groups recognize the benefits of ENERGY STAR to consumers.

Canada's ENERGY STAR initiative is expected to result in increased demand for, and availability of, ENERGY STAR labelled HVAC products across Canada.

The One-Tonne Challenge. Take action on climate change.

The Government of Canada has issued the One-Tonne Challenge to all Canadians. It's a personal commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by one tonne, or about 20 percent per year. Choosing energy-efficient heating, ventilating and air-conditioning equipment can help you reach that goal.

For more information on ENERGY STAR in Canada, visit the Web site at energystar.gc.ca, or to order ENERGY STAR publications call the publications line at 1 800 387-2000 (toll-free).

For more information on the One-Tonne Challenge, visit the Web site at www.climatechange.gc.ca or call 1 800 O-Canada (1 800 622-6232) or 1 800 465-7735 (teletype for the hearing-impaired).

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Natural Resources Canada's Office of Energy Efficiency
Leading Canadians to Energy Efficiency at Home, at Work and on the Road

One-Tonne CHALLENGE www.climatechange.gc.ca

Inventory No. M27-01-2090E
Aussi disponible en français sous le titre: Le confort au foyer